Long Range Advisory Committee

MINUTES
Monday, November 18, 2024
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Se ofrece traducción de los materiales de la reunión a español por pedido. Por favor comunicarse con bvsd.operations@bvsd.org.

Committee Members in Attendance: Jeff Anderson, Josh Baldner, Laura Baukol, Susan Courson, Brooke Daerr, Trish De Fries, Gavan Goodrich, Tina Marquis, Yvette Salas, Mamta Saxman, Jessica Seevers, Cori Shaff, Della Smith, Caleb Starbuck, Jim Topping, Nick Vanderpol, Ezra Veno

Staff Members in Attendance: Rob Price, Robbyn Fernandez, Sierra Espinoza, Glen Segrue, Susan Cousins

Board Members in Attendance: Kitty Sargent

I. **Welcome**
Chairperson Yvette Salas opened the meeting and welcomed the committee.

II. **Public Comment**
No members of the public were present.

III. **Committee Governance**
   A. Introductions - Members of the committee introduced themselves and shared their favorite family traditions for Thanksgiving.

   B. Upcoming Important Dates
      a. Next LRAC meetings - Jan. 27, 2025, Mar. 10, 2025
      b. Next Update to the Board - TBD

   C. The September 16, 2024 minutes were approved.

   D. Committee Communication
      a. Members of the committee shared their excitement and gratitude for the parents and staff doing such a great job marketing Heatherwood.

IV. **Information/Discussion**
   A. Assistant Superintendent Robbyn Fernandez and Sr. Planner Glen Segrue gave a presentation about declining enrollment at the middle school level.

      a. Segrue presented a variety of data about middle level enrollment, including the Middle Level Open Enrollment Matrix, middle level

enrollment by school, middle level 5-year projections, open enrollment data for middle level, and out of district students who open enroll into BVSD.

b. Fernandez discussed what influences families' enrollment choices at the middle level, how middle schools differ from elementary schools, and the potential impacts of declining enrollment on the middle level student experience.

B. Committee members were given a hand out (Middle School Matters in BVSD) that was developed during a middle level visioning process and engaged in small group conversation with their table partners. Some of the takeaways from the conversations were:

   a. Building social and emotional skills is an important piece at the middle level.

   b. Building meaningful family partnerships at the middle level is an area where growth is needed.

   c. Helping students to take ownership of their own learning and responsibilities is important.

   d. Parent/teacher conferences are not long enough.

   e. Developing students' skills to adapt to the workforce and to the world in general is important.

   f. There are retention issues and issues about cultural responsiveness.

   g. BVSD needs to equip students to successfully stay in high school.

C. Nevin Platt Middle School Principal Brooke Daerr and Aspen Creek PK-8 Principal Nick Vanderpol joined Fernandez to present and explain how middle level master schedules work, using the Platt and CHOICE course schedule as an example. Some key takeaways included:

   a. Teachers who do not have enough core classes to fill a 1.0 FTE contract teach elective classes.

   b. It's important to give students the opportunity to try many things.

   c. Having one class only offered at limited times makes it difficult for students whose schedule does not allow them flexibility.

   d. There can be large variations in class size.

   e. Declining enrollment affects student choices in class selection.

   f. There are negatives to having a larger populated school, such as the social and emotional effect on kids. Knowing kids' names and building

connections with them makes the experience in the building more comfortable in smaller schools.

g. With declining enrollment, sharing staff is more common. Part time positions are harder to fill. More students = more flexibility.

D. Assistant Superintendent Rob Price asked the committee to be thinking about how our buildings are being utilized at the elementary level vs. the middle level. The recommendation is to not do anything at the middle level for the next 5 years.

a. Committee members commented that from a community point of view they like where we are with our middle schools.

b. There is a feeling that Eldorado is in rapid decline and the attendance area did not turn over as expected. Completed user surveys have come back and staff can start looking at the results.

V. Agenda Setting

A. Enrollment related upcoming BOE meetings
   a. Annual Enrollment Update - Dec.10
   b. Enrollment Dashboard Worksession - Feb. 11
   c. Annual Enrollment Trend Report - Feb. 11
   d. Review of Attendance Boundaries - January through May 2025

VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

LRAC Membership **LRAC Website**